



SELF-REPORTED NEWS from the SCHOOL OF MEDICINE COMMUNITY

Presentations, Lectures & Workshops

Kudos to our colleagues who are experts in their fields and give their all to represent the School of Medicine!

► The **Department of Emergency Medicine** presented its annual Emergency Cardiology Symposium as a livestream on April 1, 2020. More than 3,500 people from 87 countries registered to watch the conference. Lecturing were:

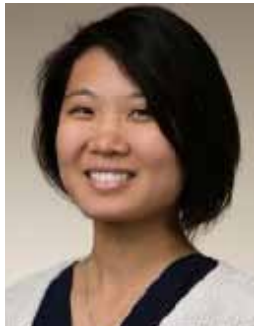


Laura Bontempo, MD, MEd

- **Laura Bontempo, MD, MEd**, Associate Professor, on “Rethinking What We Know: Updates on the Management of Atrial Fibrillation”
- **Sarah Dubbs, MD**, Assistant Professor, on “Collateral Damage: Cardiotoxicities of Cancer Therapy”
- **Mimi Lu, MD**, Adjunct Assistant Professor, on “ECG Pearls for Pediatric Syncope”
- **Benjamin Lawner, DO, MS, EMT-P**, Visiting Assistant Professor, on “Airway Management in Cardiac Arrest”
- **Amal Mattu, MD**, Professor, who also directed the symposium, on “COVID and the Heart”
- **Siamak Moayed, MD, CDEM**, Assistant Professor, on “Transvenous Pacers Made Easy!”
- **Semhar Tewelde, MD**, Assistant Professor, on “The Crashing Tamponade!”
- **Michael Winters, MD**, Professor, on “Cardiac Arrest: What’s the Latest”



Amal Mattu, MD



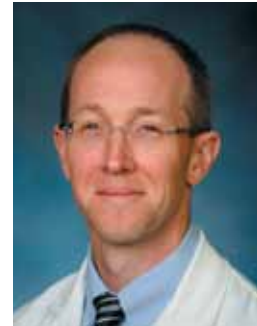
Sarah Dubbs, MD



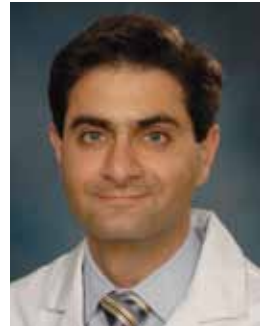
Roy Film, PT, MPT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT

► In his role as an External Assessor for the American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists (AAOMPT), **Roy Film, PT, MPT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT**, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, recently completed a review of an American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE)-accredited Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy (OMPT) fellowship program.

► **Michael Grasso, MD, PhD, FACP**, Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, hosted a meeting with the Clinical Decision Support Working Group on March 10, 2020.



Michael Winters, MD



Siamak Moayed, MD



Benjamin Lawner, DO, MS, EMT-P



Michael Grasso, MD, PhD, FACP



Semhar Tewelde, MD

Honors & Awards

Congratulations to the following who have received honors!



Thomas Blanpied, PhD

► **Thomas Blanpied, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Physiology, was honored by National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) with a Method to Extend Research in Time (MERIT) Award for his grant, “Internal Dynamics of the Postsynaptic Density,” now in its 13th year. According to NIMH, “The objective of the MERIT Award program is to provide stable, long-term support to investigators whose research competence and productivity are distinctively superior and who are likely to continue to perform in an outstanding manner. It is hoped that the provision of long-term, table support

will foster continued creativity and lessen the administrative burdens associated with preparation and submission of regular research grant applications.”

► **Sara Codding, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow, in the Lab of **Matthew Trudeau, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Physiology, was honored in February with the 2020 Paul F. Cranefield Postdoctoral Fellow Award by the Society of General Physiology for her manuscript, “The hERG Potassium Channel Intrinsic Ligand Regulates N- and C-Terminal Interactions and Channel Closure,” in the *Journal of General Physiology*. This study uncovered a novel structural and functional role of the intrinsic ligand in the potassium channel hERG using whole cell electrophysiology and spectral FRET techniques. Dr. Codding has been featured by SGP on their website and twitter @SGPweb.

Grants & Contracts

Congratulations to our very productive faculty on their recent grants and contracts!



Michael Mazzeffi, MD, MPH

► **Michael Mazzeffi, MD, MPH**, Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesiology, has been awarded the 2020 Mid-Career Grant by the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists (SCA) and the International Anesthesia Research Society (IARS) for his research project “Von Willebrand Factor Concentrate for Treatment of Acquired Von Willebrand Syndrome During ECMO: An in vitro Dose-Finding and Efficacy Study.” The award, \$100,000 over two years, supports investigators’ research projects in the field of cardio-thoracic and vascular anesthesia.



Andrea Meredith, PhD

► **Andrea Meredith, PhD**, Associate Professor, Department of Physiology, received a one-year, \$5,000 grant from the UMB Institute for Clinical & Translational Research (ICTR) Voucher Program for “Animal Models of KCNMA1-linked Channelopathy.”

► **Erin O’Connor, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was awarded a four-year, \$757,280, K23 grant from the National Institute of Mental Health for “Mechanism and Predictors of Neurocognitive Impairment in HIV Infection.”



Erin O'Connor, MD

Appointments

We applaud our colleagues on their recent appointments!



Robert Miller, MD

► The Executive Council of the Proton Collaborative Group announced on March 25 the appointment of **Robert Miller, MD**, Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, to a two-year term, beginning April 1, to its Board of Directors.

New Faculty

We welcome our new faculty!

► The Institute of Human Virology at the School of Medicine, Division of Clinical Care and Research, Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine welcomes a new faculty member, **Uzoamaka Eke, MBBS**. Dr. Eke joined as Assistant Professor of Medicine on April 27, 2020. Dr. Eke is an Infectious Diseases clinician educator with special interests in HIV and hepatitis C co-infection. Dr. Eke earned her medical degree from Nnamdi

Azikiwe University Medical School in 2005 in Nigeria. She completed her Internal Medicine internship and residency at the University College of Brooklyn at Long Island College Hospital, New York in 2007 and Infectious Diseases fellowship at the University of Connecticut Health Center in 2012. She has authored and co-authored several peer reviewed papers. Dr. Eke most recently worked at the Detroit Medical Center within an Infectious Disease practice.

In the News

A job well done to all who have kept us in the media spotlight!



Jason Adler, MD

► **Jason Adler, MD**, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was featured in a *Fox News* article, “Doctors in Distress, Quarantine Send SOS for More Protective Gear, Tests: ‘It’s a Complete Mess,’” which was published on March 26, 2020. Dr. Adler was also the lead

author of “More Medical Innovation, Less Regulation,” which was published in *City Journal* on April 9, 2020.

► **Elizabeth Clayborne, MD**, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was featured in a story by *NBC Washington*, “Pregnant ER Doctor Treating Coronavirus Patients Urges People to Make a Care Plan,” on April 6, 2020.

Publications

Hats off to those who have been published!



Odessa Addison, DPT, PhD

► **Odessa Addison, DPT, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, was a co-author of “Healthy Lifestyle and Cognition: Interaction between Diet and Physical Activity,” which was published in *Current Nutrition Reports* on March 10, 2020.

► **Brad Alger, PhD**, Professor Emeritus, Department of Physiology, authored “Defense of the Scientific Hypothesis: From Reproducibility Crisis to Big Data,” which was published by *Oxford University Press*, October 2019.

► **Omer Awan, MD, MPH**, Associate Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was the author of “Have We Done Radiology Trainees a Diservice by Eliminating the Oral Board Examination?” which was published in the March–April 2020 issue of *Radiographics*.

► **Nariman Balenga, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Departments of Surgery and Pharmacology, was a co-author of “RGS4 Promotes Allergen- and Aspirin-Associated Airway Hyperresponsiveness by Inhibiting PGE2 Biosynthesis,” which was published in the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* on March 19, 2020.

► **Rong Chen, PhD**, Assistant Professor, **Jade Wong-You-Cheong, MD**, Professor, and **Amelia Wnorowski, MD**, Assistant Professor, all from the Department of Diagnostic

Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors of “Performance of PI-RADS v2 Assessment Categories Assigned Prior to MR-US Fusion Biopsy in a New Fusion Biopsy Program,” which was published in *Clinical Imaging* on March 13, 2020. Separately,

Dr. Wnorowski, along with **Dirk Mayer, Dr rer nat**, Professor, and **Wengen Chen, MD, PhD**, Professor, both from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the co-authors of “Role of Metabolic Imaging in Diagnosis of Primary, Metastatic, and Recurrent Prostate Cancer,” which was published in *Current Opinion in Oncology* on March 19, 2020. Also, Dr. Chen was among the co-authors of “Cerebral Organoid and Mouse Models Reveal a RAB39b-PI3K-mTOR Pathway-Dependent Dysregulation of Cortical Development Leading to Macrocephaly/Autism Phenotypes,” which was published in the April 2020 issue of *Genes and Development*.

► **Thomas Ernst, Dr rer nat**, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors of “Circulating Biomarker Score for Visceral Fat and Risks of Incident Colorectal and Postmenopausal Breast Cancer: The Multiethnic Cohort Adiposity Phenotype Study,” which was published in *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers, and Prevention* on March 4, 2020.

► **Kyle Fischer, MD, MPH**, Clinical Assistant Professor, and **Angela Smedley, MD**, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Emergency Medicine, were among the authors of “Two Pulmonary Emboli in a Psych Pod,” which was published in the *Journal of the American College of Emergency Physicians Open* on April 7, 2020.

► **Abanoub Gad**, Graduate Research Assistant, GPILS Program in Molecular Medicine, and **Nariman Balenga, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Departments of Surgery and Pharmacology, authored “The Emerging Role of Adhesion GPCRs in Cancer,” which was published in *American Chemical Society Pharmacology & Translational Science* on January 13, 2020.

► **Robert Gallo, MD**, The Homer & Martha Gudelsky Distinguished Professor in Medicine, Director, Institute of Human Virology, pub-



Brad Alger, PhD



Rong Chen, PhD



Robert Gallo, MD

lished commentary, “HIV/AIDS Research for the Future,” in *Cell Host & Microbe* on April 8, 2020.

► **Dheeraj Gandhi, MBBS**, Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was among the co-authors of “Management of Small, Unruptured Intracranial Aneurysms,” which was published in the March 2020 issue of *World Neurosurgery*.

► **Mariana Guerrero, PhD**, Clinical Associate Professor; **Pranshu Mohindra, MD**, Associate Professor; **Naru Lamichhane, PhD**, Assistant Professor; and **Shifeng Chen, PhD**, Associate Professor, all from the Department of Radiation Oncology, were among the authors of “Multicriteria Optimization: Site-Specific Class Solutions for VMAT Plans,” which was published in the Spring 2020 issue of *Medical Dosimetry*.



John Hamlyn, PhD

► **John Hamlyn, PhD**, Professor, Department of Physiology, was the senior author of “Sodium Pumps, Ouabain and Aldosterone in the Brain: A Neuromodulatory Pathway Underlying Salt-Sensitive Hypertension and Heart Failure,” which was published in the March 2020 issue of *Cell Calcium*.

► **Aleta Hong, MD**, Clinical Instructor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was sole author of “Against the Flow: Pulmonary Embolism,” which was published in the American College of Emergency Physician’s continuing medical education publication, *Critical Decisions in Emergency Medicine*, in March 2020.

► **Rydhwana Hossain, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Jean Jeudy, MD**, Professor; and **Charles White, MD**, Professor, all from the Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, were among the authors of “Interobserver Reliability of the Coronary Artery Disease Reporting and Data System in Clinical Practice,” which was published in the *Journal of Thoracic Imaging* on March 20, 2020.

► **Kimia Khalatbari Kani, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, was the first author of “Surgical Techniques for Management of Acromioclavicular Joint Separations: Review and Update for Radiologists,” which was published in *Skeletal Radiology* on March 19, 2020.

► **Kyung Koh, PhD**, Postdoctoral Fellow, and **Li-Qun Zhang, PhD**, Professor, both from the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, were co-authors of “Is Intramedullary Screw Fixation Biomechanically Superior to Locking Plate Fixation and/or Tension Band Wiring in Transverse Olecranon Fractures? A Cadaveric Biomechanical Comparison Study,” which was published in the April 2020 issue of *Injury*.



Young Kwok, MD

► **Young Kwok, MD**, Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the authors of “Phase II Study of a Temozolomide-Based Chemo-Radiotherapy Regimen for High Risk Low-Grade Gliomas: Long-Term Results of Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG)



Dheeraj Gandhi, MBBS



Mariana Guerrero, PhD



Charles White, MD



Li-Qun Zhang, PhD

0424,” which was published in the *International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics* on April 3, 2020.



Olga Latinovic, PhD, MSc

► **Olga Latinovic, PhD, MSc**, Assistant Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, Division of Infectious Agents and Cancer, Institute of Human Virology, and **Alonso Heredia, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Institute of Human Virology, were among the authors of “Use of Humanized Mouse Models for Studying HIV-1 Infection, Pathogenesis and Persistence,” which was published in *AIDS and HIV Treatment*, Volume 2, Issue 1, 2020. Separately, Dr. Latinovic, was among the authors of “Cauliflower Mosaic Virus Proteins in Human Glioblastoma Cells: Cytoplasmic and Nuclear Expression,” which was published in *BioMed Research International* on March 16, 2020.

► **Dan Lemkin, MD**, Assistant Professor; **Michael Winters, MD**, Professor; and **Zachary Dezman, MD**, Assistant Professor, all from the Department of Emergency Medicine, were among the authors of “National Early Warning Score Is Modestly Predictive of Care Escalation after ED-to-Floor Admission,” which was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Emergency Medicine* on March 21, 2020.



Zachary Dezman, MD

► **Rena Malik, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, was among the authors on “Contemporary Use of Prescription Medications for Neurogenic Lower Urinary Tract Dysfunction,” which was published in *LUTS: Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms* on April 24, 2020.



Rena Malik, MD

► **Amal Mattu, MD**, Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, is co-editor in chief of the online emergency medicine textbook *CorePendium*, which recently published a new open-access chapter on “Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19).” The chapter is being continually updated and was accessed 40,061 times by 25,921 individuals around the world in the month of March alone.



Amal Mattu, MD

► **Andrea Meredith, PhD**, Associate Professor, and **Jenna Harvey, PhD**, Research Associate, both from the Department of Physiology, co-authored the invited review “Ion Channels Controlling Circadian Rhythms in Suprachiasmatic Nucleus Excitability,” which was published in *Physiological Reviews* on March 12, 2020.



Andrea Meredith, PhD

► **Mark Mishra, MD**, Associate Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was the first author of “Patient Reported Outcomes Following Proton Pencil Beam Scanning vs. Passive Scatter/Uniform Scanning for Localized Prostate Cancer: Secondary Analysis of PCG 001-09,” which was published in *Clinical and Translational Radiation Oncology* on March 7, 2020.



Mark Mishra, MD

► **Arezoo Modiri, PhD**, Assistant Professor, and **Amit Sawant, PhD**, Associate Professor, both from the Department of Radiation Oncology, were among the authors of “Biological Optimization for Mediastinal Lymphoma Radiotherapy: A Preliminary Study,” which was published in *Acta Oncologica* on March 27, 2020



Arezoo Modiri, PhD

► **Pranshu Mohindra, MD, MBBS**, Associate Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the authors of “Hypofractionated Proton Therapy with

Concurrent Chemotherapy for Locally Advanced Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: A Phase I Trial from the University of Florida and Proton Collaborative Group,” which was published in the *International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics* on April 3, 2020.



Robert Miller, MD

► **Robert Miller, MD**, Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the authors of “Proton Beam Therapy Utilization in Adults with Primary Brain Tumors in the United States,” which was published in the *Journal of Clinical Neuroscience* on March 14, 2020.



Pranshu Mohindra, MD, MBBS

► **Feyruz Rassool, PhD**, Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the authors of “Histone Demethylase JMJD1A Promotes Expression of DNA Repair Factors and Radio-Resistance of Prostate Cancer Cells,” which was published in *Cell Death & Disease* on April 1, 2020.



Feyruz Rassool, PhD

► **Dario Rodrigues, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was among the authors of “Recent Technological Advancements in Radiofrequency- and Microwave-Mediated Hyperthermia for Enhancing Drug Delivery,” which was published in *Advanced Drug Delivery Reviews* on March 27, 2020.



Dario Rodrigues, PhD

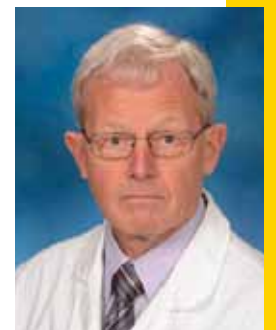
► **Giovannino Silvestri, PhD**, Research Associate of Medicine, Division of Infectious Agents and Cancer, Institute of Human Virology, was the first author of “Persistence of Drug-Resistant Leukemic Stem Cells and Impaired NK Cell Immunity in CML Patients Depend on MIR300 Antiproliferative and PP2A-Activating Function,” which was published in *Blood Cancer Discovery* on March 4, 2020.



Giovannino Silvestri, PhD

► **Hongshuo Song, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Agents and Cancer, was a co-author on “Safety and Immunogenicity of Ad26 and MVA Vaccines in Acutely Treated HIV and Effect on Viral Rebound after Antiretroviral Therapy Interruption,” which was published in *Nature Medicine* on March 23, 2020. Dr. Song, as the PI of an R21 grant “Genetic Imprints of Therapeutic Ad26/MVA Mosaic Vaccine in Rebound HIV-1 Genome from Acutely Treated Individuals” awarded in July 2019, will continue to lead the HIV genetic analysis of this clinical trial and to investigate whether the vaccine has exerted any selection pressure on the rebounding viruses.

► **Stephen Thom, MD, PhD**, Professor, and **Quincy Tran, MD**, Assistant Professor, both from the Department of Emergency Medicine, were among the authors of “Transport Blood Pressures and Outcomes in Stroke Patients Requiring Thrombectomy,” which was published in *Air Medical Journal* on April 7, 2020.



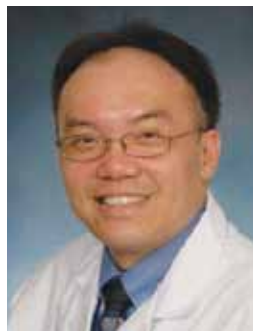
Stephen Thom, MD, PhD

► **Richard Thompson PhD**, Associate Professor; **Henryk Szmanski, PhD**, Adjunct Associate Professor; and **Hui-Hui Zeng, PhD**, all from the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; **Adam Puche, PhD**, Professor, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology; and **Katayoun Eslami, MD**, Pediatric Resident, authored “Imaging Hydroxyapatite in Sub-Retinal Pigment Epithelial Deposits by Fluorescence Lifetime Imaging Microscopy with Tetracycline Staining,” which was published in the *Journal of Biomedical Optics* on April 21, 2020.



Richard Thompson, PhD

- **Quincy Tran, MD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was:
 - among the authors of “Outcome Predictors for Severely Brain-Injured Patients Directly Admitted or Transferred from Emergency Departments to a Trauma Center,” which was published in the April 2020 issue of *World Journal of Emergency Medicine*.
 - among the authors of “Sedation Patterns and Hyperosmolar Therapy in Emergency Departments Were Associated with Blood Pressure Variability and Outcome in Patients with Spontaneous Intracranial Hemorrhage,” which was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Emergencies, Trauma, and Shock* in November 2019.
 - third author of “Is Emphysematous Pyelitis a Precursor Lesion of Emphysematous Pyelonephritis? A Case Report of Bilateral Emphysematous Pyelitis Caused by Extended-Spectrum Beta-Lactamase *Escherichia coli* and Literature Review,” which was published in the *International Journal of Academic Medicine* on March 27, 2020.
- **Matthew Witek, MD, MS**, Associate Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, was a co-author of “Emphasize Treatment of



Quincy Tran, MD

Known Disease Rather than Past Footprints,” which was published in the April 2020 issue of *International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics*.

- **Michael Winters, MD**, Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, was among the discussants in the twice-monthly podcast, *Critical Care Perspectives in Emergency Medicine*, episodes:
 - “Vitamin C for Septic Shock?” published March 27, 2020
 - “Critical Care Management COVID-19 Update—March 30, 2020,” published April 2, 2020
- **Daive Zella, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Division of Infectious Agents and Cancer, Institute of Human Virology, and **Robert Gallo, MD**, The Homer & Martha Gudelsky Distinguished Professor in Medicine, Director, Institute of Human Virology, co-authored “Emerging SARS-CoV-2 Mutation Hot Spots Include a Novel RNA-Dependent-RNA Polymerase Variant,” which was published in the *Journal of Translation Medicine* on April 22, 2020, and “Role of Mycoplasma Chaperone DnaK in Cellular Transformation,” which was published in the *International Journal of Molecular Sciences* on February 15, 2020.



Matthew Witek, MD, MS



Michael Winters, MD

Patents

We applaud the innovators among us!

- **Toni Antalis, PhD**, Professor, and her former graduate student **Erik Martin, PhD**, both from the Department of Physiology and the Center for Vascular and Inflammatory Diseases (CVID), were issued U.S. Patent Number 10,568,929 “Engineered Anthrax Protective Antigen Proteins for Cancer Therapy,” which is a patent on engineered anthrax protective antigen proteins for cancer therapy based on the targeting of overactive tumor associated membrane-anchored serine proteases.



Toni Antalis, PhD

HOW TO SUBMIT INFORMATION TO THE **Buzz**

If you would like to acknowledge an award, presentation, publication, or other noteworthy accomplishments, please send the information to the liaison within your department, program, center or office.

OR

You may submit your *Buzz* items online:
<https://umbforms.wufoo.com/forms/z150ub5x10bz167/>

Research Communications Network

Many thanks to the following who serve as your liaison for the information you see in What’s the Buzz?

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- **Program in Oncology:** Kelli Carroll | kcaroll@umm.edu

- **Program in Trauma:** Betsy Burcham | bburcham@umm.edu

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- **Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP):** Jane Bacon | jbacon@som.umaryland.edu

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